



Nov-Dec 2011

MISSOURI SCHOOL FOR THE DEAF

Deaf Education News



MSD PRESENTS CHINESE NEW YEAR

2012—Year of the Dragon

January 26, 2012



The Missouri School for the Deaf (MSD) invites Deaf and Hard of Hearing students to attend a celebration of Chinese New Year. Students may be accompanied by their teachers, para-professionals, and special education coordinators.

This one day enrichment workshop will have guest artists, traditional festival food prepared by Chinese chefs, activities/games, and educational booths to learn more about this long celebrated historical event. This day of learning about Chinese culture will be held on the campus of the Missouri School for the Deaf in Fulton, Missouri from 10:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Presentations will be in American Sign Language with voice interpretations. We guarantee a full day of fun and learning. MSD looks forward to sharing this special event with you.

Please sign up to attend.

Contact Barbara.Bonsall@msd.dese.mo.gov.

MSD Winter Memories 2010-2011



NEWS

ASL CAMP

For Families with Deaf & Hard of Hearing

Children in Grades K-12

Where: Missouri School for the Deaf, 505 E 5th St., Fulton, MO

When: June 22-24, 2012

Cost: FREE!!! But you **MUST** Register

- ◆ Enjoy 3 days and 2 nights of fun games and activities designed to help your family learn to sign in a comfortable and supportive atmosphere.
- ◆ Meet other families and make new friends.
- ◆ Lodging will be in MSD dorms. Food and drinks will be provided.

To Register

Email: rcd@msd.dese.mo.gov & put "**ASL CAMP**" in the subject box

Phone: (573) 592-2543

Please provide: Names of people likely to attend, address, phone number, email address and ages of children that will attend.

Preschool Program

For Deaf & Hard of Hearing



Congratulations to the Columbia Public Schools for their new preschool program for Deaf and Hard of Hearing Students. The program serves children from other districts as well as the Columbia area. Outside districts are responsible for transportation to and from the preschool.

- An evaluation team provides assessment as needed to develop Individualized Education Plans (IEPs) appropriate for each child.
- Students receive individualized therapy from Speech Language Pathologists and Deaf Educators which target speech, language, and auditory training.
- Small group activities are designed to target vocabulary, language structure, and language based pre-academics.
- Classrooms include peer models who provide appropriate models for speech, language, and play skills.
- The professionals work closely with the families to determine the best mode of communication for their child, auditory-oral, total communication, or sign language. The decision is based on the individual needs of each child.

Frequently Asked Questions

Question: Our school has an oral deaf student in a regular 3rd grade classroom. He wears two hearing aids and has intelligible speech. He is delayed in reading. What strategies can we use to help him?

Answer: The best strategies for teaching this student depend on the answer to several questions:

- Is the expected reading level above the child's skill level?
- What specific reading problems does the student have?
- What is the severity of the hearing loss?
- How much auditory benefit is gained from hearing aids?
- Is an FM system being used in all of the classrooms?
- Does the student have average cognition?
- Are other conditions present, such as auditory neuropathy, dyslexia, attention deficit disorder, etc?

Deaf and hard of hearing students often struggle with reading because of language difficulties. Even children with a mild hearing loss will miss a large portion of auditory information in their surroundings as they grow up. This results in language gaps that may include vocabulary, grammar, common expressions, and general world knowledge. Language that appears to “come naturally” to hearing children, will likely present difficulties for students with a hearing loss. Thus, these aspects of language need to be specifically taught. As any reading teacher knows, a student may correctly “read” the words in a book without comprehending their meaning.

Suggestions:

- Administer a complete language evaluation.
- Provide specific instruction for weak language areas.
- Teach new language through real hands-on experiences.
- Obtain an accurate reading level for the student.
- Consider resource room support for language and reading.
- Teach at the level “just above” the student's independent reading level.
- Pre-teach language aspects of a story that may present problems for the student.
- Encourage independent reading by providing a variety of small books that the student's can read without help.
- Contact MSD's Outreach Services for a student consultation.



Note: Third grade is a challenging period for students who struggle with reading. By third grade, children are expected to be able to “read to learn” rather than “learn to read”. The sooner a reading problem can be addressed, the better chance the child will have for academic success.





Missouri School for the Deaf
505 East 5th Street
Fulton, MO 65251

Phone: 573-592-4000 V/TDD
Fax: 573-592-2570
www.msd.k12.mo.us

**Student and
Outreach Services**

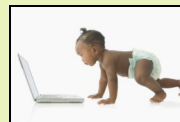
573-592-2543 V/TDD

Email Address
rcd@msd.dese.mo.gov

First Choice Not Last Resort



Families First Early Intervention Program



Parent Advisors with this program provide home visits for deaf or hard of hearing children from birth through 5 years of age. Parent Advisors offer the family information, support, and encouragement, as well as provide ideas for strategies parents may use to help a child develop in the areas of language acquisition, communication, and social and emotional skills. All services are provided free. Families must live in Missouri to qualify.

For more information contact:

- Families First: (573) 592-2543 or ff@msd.dese.mo.gov
 - Robyn Fleming Lead Parent Advisor (573) 645-6647
- Email: moparlf@hotmail.com

The Department of Elementary and Secondary Education does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability, or age in its programs and activities. Inquiries related to Department programs and to the location of services, activities, and facilities that are accessible by persons with disabilities may be directed to the Jefferson State Office Building, Civil Rights Compliance (Title VI/Title IX/504/ADA/Age Act), 5th Floor, 205 Jefferson Street, Jefferson City, MO 65102-0480; telephone number 573-526-4757 or Relay Missouri 800-735-2966.



Outreach Services

Outreach Services at the Missouri School for the Deaf in Fulton, serves as an information source for teachers, principals, and special education directors who work with deaf and hard-of-hearing children and their families. A staff audiologist provides audiological exams for Missouri children birth to 21. A deaf educator is available for consultation and school visits. Language assessment services are provided for deaf and hard-of-hearing students unable to be appropriately tested in their home districts. These services are provided at no charge.

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